

NEWS RELEASE

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For Immediate Release

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Ronald J. Tenpas, United States Attorney for the Southern District of Illinois, announced today that on August 19, 2004, **SHAWN J. RUSSELL**, age 25, formerly of 2873 Iola Lane, Iola, Illinois, and also from Effingham County, Illinois, was sentenced in United States District Court in Benton, Illinois, today to 192 months' imprisonment, 5 years' supervised release, a fine and a \$100 special assessment, for Conspiracy to Manufacture, Distribute and Possess with Intent to Distribute Methamphetamine. There is no parole in the federal system. The conspiracy operated in and around Effingham County from January 2001 through November 2003 when members of the conspiracy were arrested.

Also sentenced in federal court in the case on August 12, 2004, for his role in the conspiracy was **SHAWN WOLFF**, age 30, of Effingham County, Illinois. He was sentenced to 135 months' imprisonment, 5 years' supervised release, a \$300 fine and a \$100 special assessment.

Two other members of the conspiracy pled guilty on August 12, 2004. They were the last of ten defendants charged in the case to plead guilty. **ANDREW WELLS**, age 22, of Effingham County, Illinois, and **KEVIN BARNFIELD**, age 25, formerly of Effingham County, Illinois, pled guilty to Conspiracy to Manufacture, Distribute and Possess with Intent to Distribute Methamphetamine. **ANDREW WELLS** faces not less than 10 years' up to life imprisonment, a \$4 million fine, and 5 years' supervised release. His sentencing date is November 18, 2004. **KEVIN BARNFIELD** faces not less than 5 years' up to 40 years' imprisonment, a \$ 2 million fine, and 4 years supervised release. His sentencing date is November 19, 2004.

The others who have pled guilty to the conspiracy in the case and are awaiting sentencing are **CHARLES LOGSON**, age 45, of Coles County, Illinois, **TRAVIS TARRANT**, age 25, of 9422 E. Hwy. 45, Effingham, Illinois, **TRAVIS ELAM**, age 30, formerly of Effingham County, Illinois, and **DAMON SKAGGS**, age 24, formerly of Effingham County, Illinois, and **CASEY ARTERBURN**, age 22, of Effingham County, Illinois. They face a penalty of not less than 10 years' imprisonment up to life imprisonment, a \$4 million fine, and at least 5 years' supervised release.

The ongoing investigation is being conducted by the Drug Enforcement Administration, the Effingham County Sheriff's Department, the Effingham City Police Department, and other local law enforcement agencies, in cooperation with the Effingham County State's Attorney Edward Deters. The ongoing investigation is conducted as part of the Effingham County Project Safe Neighborhoods DRAGUN Team Initiative, a cooperative effort of local, state and federal law enforcement, and state and federal prosecuting authorities, aimed at ridding communities of drugs and guns. The case is being handled by Assistant United States Attorney Kit Morrissey.